



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 24, 2006

### **H.R. 233**

#### **Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on July 19, 2006*

H.R. 233 would designate over 300,000 acres of federal land in California as wilderness. Subject to valid existing rights, the bill would withdraw federal land within the proposed wilderness areas from programs to sell land or develop natural resources. The bill also would release other federal lands that are currently classified as wilderness study areas, identify certain other areas as potential wilderness, and designate 21 miles of the Black Butte River in California as part of the wild and scenic rivers system.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 233 would have no significant effect on the federal budget. Withdrawing the proposed wilderness areas from programs to sell land or develop natural resources could result in forgone offsetting receipts (a credit against direct spending). However, based on information from the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, CBO estimates that any receipts forgone as a result of H.R. 233 would be negligible in any year. We estimate that any increase in federal costs to manage areas affected by the bill, which would be subject to appropriation, would not exceed \$500,000 in any year.

H.R. 233 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no significant direct costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.